Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-20. Cancelled.

21. (Previously presented) A method for storing and accessing user-specific data in a client-server computer network, the method comprising the steps of:

a user performing, from a first computer, a login operation to a first server in the network;

determining, based on the login operation performed by the user and a location of the first computer in the network, a second server in the network for storing user-specific data;

the user sending, from the first computer to the first server in the network, a request to store the user-specific data;

redirecting the request to the second server for storing of the user-specific data at the second server; and

conducting a data upload directly between the first computer and the second server to store the user-specific data at the second server.

22. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the first server comprises an application server element and a determination server element and the method comprises the user performing the login operation to the application server element, and the application server element performing another login operation to the determination server element based on the login operation performed by the user, for determining, based on the location of the first computer in the network, the second server in the network for storing the user-specific data.

23. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the application server element and the determination server element are located on different computers in the network.

24. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, further comprising the user or another user performing a login operation to the first server from a second computer and sending a request relating to said user-specific data to the first server; redirecting the request to the second server based on the login operation from the second computer; and conducting transactions relating to the user-specific data directly between the second computer and the second server.

25. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 24, further comprising the steps of replicating at least a portion of the user-specific data on a third server selected based on a location of the second computer on the network, and redirecting requests relating to the user-specific data from the second computer to the third server.

26. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the step of determining, based on a location of the first computer in the network, the second server in the network for storing the user-specific data comprises measuring respective response times between the first computer and each of a plurality of candidate servers.

27. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the candidate server having the shortest response time is determined as the second server.

28. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein transactions between the first computer and the second server are conducted in an encrypted manner.

29. (Previously presented) A system for storing and accessing user-specific data in a client-server computer network, the system comprising:

a first server;

a first computer operated by a user for performing a login operation to the first server and for sending a request to store user-specific data to the first server;

wherein the first server determines, based on the login operation performed by the user and a location of the first computer in the network, a second server for storing the user-specific data and redirects the request to the second server for storing of the user-specific data at the second server,

wherein a data upload to store the user-specific data at the second server is conducted directly between the first computer and the second server.

30. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the first server comprises an application server element, and

a determination server element,

wherein the application server element receives the login operation by the user and performs another login operation to the determination server element based on the login operation performed by the user for determining, based on the location of the first computer in the network, the second server in the network for storing the user-specific data.

31. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the application server element and the determination server element are located on different computers in the network.

32. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 29, further comprising a second computer operated by the user or another user for performing a login operation to the first server and for sending a request relating to the user-specific data to the first server; wherein the first server redirects the request to the second server based on the login operation from the second computer and wherein transmissions relating to the user-specific data are conducted directly between the second computer and the second server.

33. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 32, wherein the first server facilitates replication of at least a portion of the user-specific data on a third server selected

based on a location of the second computer on the network, and redirects requests relating to the user-specific content from the second computer to the third server.

34. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the first server measures respective response times between the first computer and each of a plurality of candidate servers during determining the second server for storing the user-specific data

35. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 34, wherein the first server determines the candidate server having the shortest response time as the second server.

36. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the system is arranged such that transactions between the first computer and the second server are conducted in an encrypted manner.